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ADDRESS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW MEXICO.

MANIFESTO OF

The Council and House of Representatives to the Inhabitants of the Territory of New Mexico

FELLOW CITIZENS:

Being at the close of the present session of your Legislative Assembly, and knowing from this Capital, the danger that threatens you, we have thought it well, to address you this

MANIFESTO

That a savage tribe of Indians should be your enemies, and plunder and murder, is not a thing new or unexpected. Such has been *their* habits, since our brave ancestors first possessed the Valley of the Rio Grande. But we have now another enemy less excusable than the barbarians, because he has grown in the midst of civilization, and enlightenment.

Without any fault or even offence of yours, your honor and property, your families and children are now in peril, by an enemy you have not injured, and whose invasion of the peace, security, and integrity of your soil and homes, you have not provoked.

This enemy is Texas and the Texans. With their hostile armed regiments, rebels to the Government of the United States, to whose protection and flag, our good faith, our duties, our confidence, interests and hopes turn and belong, they have come upon us, in violation of every principle of right, of justice and friendship. They threaten you with ruin and vengeance.—They strive to cover the iniquity of their marauding inroad, under the pretence, that they are under the authority of a new arrangement they call a Confederacy, but in truth is a rebel organization. But this pretence cannot deceive. They come to subsist upon the substance of our property and industry. They are without money or credit.

They come to destroy the Government under which we have lived, prospered, and been happy, and whose protection and care we need. They come to turn from their places, those in offices and authority among you, and to erect by military despotism alone, a power to oppress, to harrass and crush you. You are free and unmolested in your religion, and they who are in violation of every thing held sacred by our religion pretend to come to protect our religion already protected.

They pretend to relieve you from the expenses of Government, when they have no Government, that can bring into our Territory one dollar of money or credit.

To even eat for a day, they must take and plunder your cattle, your sheep your wheat, corn and beans. They must plunder from our people, all their living. Could they succeed in their infamous and iniquitous attempts, they have no way of subsisting, but, upon the substance of our people. A lawless body of men, banded together, hoping to kill or conquer us, would then be established among us, and our shame, injuries and sufferings, we will not attempt to describe.

May a just and avenging God, not withdraw his arm from us, and leave our people to the insults, wrongs, dishonors, cruelties and oppression, that these Texan invaders will inflict, the moment they shall have the power! We must not forget they are our ancient enemies. Twenty years ago they came with intents like they now come. Then they were overcome, and the integrity of our soil vindicated. In 1849 they strove to set up their power over our people, and sent their agents among our people, to carry out their schemes, but our people stood firm, and the General Government silenced Texan pretension.

Taking advantage of the troubles in the United States, they have now come hoping to succeed. Their long smothered vengeance against our Territory and people, they now seek to gratify.

We are a free people, and our fathers ever abhored negro slaves and slavery.—Our enemies found their rebellion upon pretences touching the negro, negro slaves and slavery. They have set up their rebel organization upon those elements, and boast in the face of a christian world, of their skill and wisdom in building upon such foundations.

We have condemned, and put slavery from among our laws. It is not congenial with our history, our feelings or interests. The marauders come to destroy our enactments, and force upon us by the canon and rifle, slave institutions, against our will, protests and tastes.

We have no interests to promote, by being drawn within the destinies of the rebels and rebellion. All in that direction is danger and ruin. Listen not to their agents or emissaries, whether sent for mischief, or shall be found as traitors, living among us. In the midst of our wrongs and dangers, neutrality is without excuse. He that is not for us, is for the rebels and rebellion, and his sympathies favor the invaders.—The Texans may circulate their seditious papers and proclamations, by traitors to us among our people. Be not deceived by these pretensions. Put far from you, the language and sentiments of treason.—Touch not the poison. A serpent's fange is in it. Expose your loyalty to no suspicions. Look to the Government for reward for your services. Forfeit no claim by giving any favor to the enemy. Trust the justice and generosity of the Government. We are well assured, that we will be relieved from the assessment, placed upon us. The matter is brought to the attention of Congress. We have no doubt of liberality being extended to us. Could our enemies gain advantages and even battles, they could not long profit by their success. But success cannot crown so iniquitous, so unholy a cause. Success is impossible where there is not the treachery, the cowardice, weekness or folly, that condemned to undying infamy, the conduct, the affairs and surrender of Fort Fillmere. The time has fully come to wipe out that shame.—The army feels it, the people and the whole government feel it. The means of your complete success, in driving the enemy from our limits, are in our hands, large columns of well armed, well disciplined, and well prepared United States American troops, are ready for the fight. These are commanded by officers, who should know the whole art of war. It is their education and profession. We would recoil from even the approach of the thought, that they have not the spirit, courage, conduct, skill and judgement, that must lead the elements under their command, to victory and glory. May they and their troops, win fame that shall dazzle with its brightness, and honor that shall endure as the mountains. With our native soldiery, and volunteers, our pride, our solicitude and sympathies, are too deep for expression. Side by side as they are, with the veteran regular soldier, they live at a time and are actors in the scenes when they may win wreaths of glory and renown, for themselves, their children, and their children's children's generations.—We know they have spirit and courage.—Let us trust to their love of country, justice and honor.

In one sense, the period and event upon us, is fortunate. The enemy is accustomed to sneer at our valor, and depreciate our force and capacity. Never did time, present to outraged men, a fairer field in which to save a country, punish an enemy, and make a name, that invaders shall ever dread, than now surrounds us. Now is the day to feel the tinglings of the ancient, and unconquerable Castillian blood, that our ancestors brought to this land. The fire-sparks are deathless in every drop.—Now is the day for the flame, that shall conquer and consume. The remains of our intrepid and glorious ancestors, slept in no grave, that did not entomb a hero. Their pride and honor could endure no invader. To violate truth, and to commit cowardice, their high souls scorned and abhored.—Now is the day to show ourselves worthy of our ancestors. Now is the day in which we can make a bright name, that shall shine throughout the union and through time. Let not the veteran Regular surpass you in daring. Emulate the boldest daring he has the spirit to attempt. Let him who commands know no fear like defeat, no dishonor like flying from the face of the invader. Drive off the audacious invader, and then the Indian marauders can be exterminated. If the invader gets a foothold further within the country, there are many modes of depriving him of any profit by his advance, more than the plunder he will gather. The people will never consent to his rule, his military, his slave despotism. The brave and just from neighboring sections will come to our aid. Already reinforcements of Regiments are organized to march to our assistance. They are coming with strong arms and hearts, and will join us in driving off all enemies. The Texans will be driven from our soil. Let no one dispair. Our troops are ready and eager to win their laurels and security.

Let every Mexican in the Territory rally to the brave in the field, your fathers, sons and brothers. Let no discouragement or alarm disturb you. Your deliverance from enemies is at hand. Be true, be faithful, and be courageous; then your native land will be full of songs, in honor of your glorious deeds, and New Mexico blaze with fame, and her sons and daughters glow with pride when wheresoever they may travel hereafter through the Union or other lands, they shall find how great the benefit and distinction will be, in being known as the sons and daughters of New Mexico.

FACUNDO PINO,
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

J. M. GALLEGOS,
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

S. M., Jan. 29, 1862.